

COMMUNITY ACTION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

1601 E Fourth Plain, Room C210C

May 12, 2015

<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>	<u>STAFF</u>	<u>GUESTS</u>
Armando Herrera		Pete Munroe	Dale Whitley
Lydia Sanders		Rebecca Royce	
Paula Martin		Janet Snook	
Mavis Nickels			
Sheree Thun			
Anne McEnery-Ogle			
Melodie Pazolt			
Jessica Ghiglieri			

I. Call to Order/Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Chair Armando Herrera.

II. Approval of March 10, 2015, Meeting Minutes

The March 10, 2015, minutes were approved after a motion made by Lydia Sanders and seconded by Mavis Nickels passed unanimously.

III. Adopt Community Needs Assessment

The US Department of Health and Human Services Office of Community Services recently approved new organizational standards for Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)-eligible entities. One of the new standards is to have the Community Needs Assessment formally adopted by the local advisory board of the funds. Clark County completed its Needs Assessment in 2014 using an online tool through the National Community Partnership that collates census data for the County regarding the population profile, employment trends, education levels, housing, income, nutrition, and health care. Staff also included data from the most recent Community Needs Survey conducted in 2013. Information from both of these sources directs how CSBG funds should be allocated. The Assessment is available on the Clark County website, and will be sent to providers and cities. Mavis Nickels moved to adopt the Assessment, and Lydia Sanders seconded. The motion carried.

IV. 211 Info Presentation

The presentation was postponed.

V. Legislative Update

State: The Extended Foster Care bill (SB 5740), which allows disabled youth to opt into extended foster care until their 21st birthday, passed the legislature. The Homeless Youth Act also passed. It creates an office of Homeless Youth Prevention and Protection Programs in the Department of Commerce to strengthen the youth homeless system. A bill to protect from source of income discrimination, and the Fair Tenant Screening bill, which enables applicants to avoid multiple tenancy application fees, did not pass. The Washington Low-Income Housing Alliance plans to work with legislators next year on similar bills to progress tenant rights.

Federal: Weatherization funding will be about the same as 2014. The HUD budget requiring 67% of funds to be used for public housing and Section 8 passed out of the House subcommittee. Both Houses also passed a non-binding resolution to reduce the budget by \$496 billion by 2025 through cutting non-defense programs rather than raising taxes.

VI. 2014 Draft Report to the Community

The Report to the Community is an overview of Community Action programs provided in 2014. Staff requested feedback on the draft report, which may be sent to Rebecca.Royce@Clark.WA.Gov. Adoption of the report will be discussed at the July 14, 2015, meeting.

VII. CAAB Member Advocacy Reports

Members shared information of their participation in advocacy efforts in the community and in the legislature. Among these, Lydia Sanders will be speaking at the Conference on Ending Homelessness, which will also be attended by Sheree Thun, Jessica Ghiglieri, and Rebecca Royce. Lydia is also involved in Life101, an effort to prevent isolationism, mentor parents of homeless youth, and pair adult mentors with children.

VIII. 2015 Point in Time Count and Homeless Connect

Every Continuum of Care is required to conduct a one-day point-in-time (PIT) count of homelessness in the community during the last week of January. The information is used as a snapshot of homelessness to compare year-over-year. Surveys are conducted by street-count teams that visit known camps and hangouts where people who are homeless may frequent. People who are in shelters, transitional housing, schools, and those who attend the Project Homeless Connect event and identify as homeless, are also counted. In total, Clark County counted 206 unsheltered individuals, 229 individuals in transitional homeless programs, and 228 individuals in emergency shelters. The Homeless Connect event also identified an additional 44 individuals who are doubled-up with friends or family and 56 individuals who are unstably housed. There was little change when compared to the 2014 PIT.

IX. 2014 Funding Finance Review

Total spending to date by fund for 2013-2014 Community Funds (CF) and 2014-2015 Consolidated Homeless Grant (CHG) funds was provided. Contracts for the CF programs are completed and unspent funds were reallocated with new 2015 contracts. The Board discussed the different funds available as landlord incentives including the Landlord Guarantee programs and Landlord Risk Mitigation programs.

X. Other Business

A report on the Conference on Ending Homelessness, May 13-14, will be presented at the next meeting. There is no Continuum of Care meeting May 13 due to the conference.

The Board of County Councilors discussed the Homeless Action Plan in a work session. It will be heard for approval May 26.

Lincoln Place construction is scheduled to begin in about two weeks. Lincoln Place will provide 30 units of housing for individuals who are chronically homeless.

Freedom's Path housing for homeless veterans will begin as soon as the replacement parking lot is complete.

The Community Funds Request for Applications (RFA) will be released June 15.

XI. Adjourn

Mavis Nickels moved to adjourn the meeting; Lydia Sanders seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 a.m.

Next meeting: July 14, 2015, 8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m., 1601 E Fourth Plain, Room C210 C

Lydia Sanders, Secretary
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